

CALIFORNIA DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND GAME
Eastern Sierra & Inland Deserts Region

DEER ZONE D19 and ADDITIONAL HUNT J14
Deer Hunting Information

This information has been prepared to assist you in getting ready for your hunt after you have received a general season deer tag for Zone D19 or a J14 additional hunt deer tag in Zone D19. All hunters should be familiar with regulations in the current CALIFORNIA HUNTING REGULATIONS (MAMMALS AND FURBEARERS) booklet available online at the Department of Fish and Game's website: www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/biggame/biggamehunting.html. This booklet contains important information on zone boundaries, tag quotas, hunting seasons, bag limits, and special conditions. Laws, designed to conserve wildlife and provide an equitable distribution of game animals, are expected to encourage hunter ethics. Those who know and understand the rules can expect an enjoyable hunting experience. Articles on big game hunting and information about how to apply for deer tags may be found in the current year's BIG GAME HUNTING booklet available where hunting licenses are sold or online at www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/biggame/biggamehunting.html.

LAND STATUS: Zone D19 is a comparatively small zone occupying parts of three counties: Riverside, San Diego and Imperial. The zone is bounded by Interstate Highway 10 on the north, Highway 111 to the east, Highway 78 to the south, and Highway 79 to the west. Most of the Imperial County portion of the zone is restricted from hunting and the San Diego County portion of D19 is mostly part of the Anza – Borrego Desert State Park, which is also closed to hunting. In Riverside County, there are two game refuges and a State Park that are closed to hunting. The Mt. San Jacinto State Park and the San Jacinto Wilderness, located just south of the Interstate Highway 10 and State Highway 111 split, together make up a portion of a state game refuge that is closed to hunting. The second game refuge is located just east of the first and is in the most north-eastern portion of the zone and includes the Santa Rosa Wilderness.

The zone covers a wide variety of ecotypes where deer can be found from Alpine meadow to high desert scrub. The majority of the zone is public land administered by the U. S. Forest Service (USFS), San Bernardino National Forest (909) 383-5588, or the U. S. Bureau of Land Management (BLM), 2601 Barstow Rd., Barstow CA 92311 (760) 252-6000.

ACCESS: The major highways, mentioned above, lead to several smaller highways, USFS roads, and trails that go into the heart of the Zone. Some roads include Highways 243 and 74, along with USFS roads 5S15, 4S10, and 6S13.

MAPS: A map showing land ownership is available online at www.dfg.ca.gov/hunting/deer/deer_maps.html. For maps with more detail, please utilize the sources mentioned in this section. Both USFS and BLM maps are available, and can be obtained by contacting the San Bernardino National Forest (909) 383-5588 or BLM (760) 252-6000. The "Southern California Atlas and Gazetteer" by DeLorme Mapping Company, available at bookstores or call (207) 846-7000 to order, provides a good, large-scale overview of roads within the forest boundaries. More detail is provided in USGS topographical maps, available at specialty stores such as camping and hiking products retailers, or directly from the U.S. Geological Survey Distribution Center, Denver Federal Center, Building 810, Box 25286, Denver CO 80225, telephone (303) 202-

4700. Some specific 7.5 minute quadrangle maps for the portions of the zone include Blackburn Canyon, Idyllwild, Lake Fulmor, San Jacinto Peak, and Beauty Mountain.

TRAVEL TIPS: Zone D19 encompasses a large geographic area, and hunters are advised to assure gasoline tanks are full before entering back country. Terrain can be hard and flat, to steep and rocky. As is the case in every instance for all remote area travel, hunters should take along a shovel, serviceable spare tire, and lots of extra food and water. Four-wheel-drive vehicles are not generally required within D19 hunting areas, but should one get stuck, a considerable walk might be encountered. Be sure to use extra caution when driving off-road, and check with USFS or BLM regarding vehicle travel restrictions that may be in place. Note that only street-legal licensed vehicles are allowed within the majority of the zone, with green-sticker vehicles permitted only in certain locations and routes.

The Federal Government, through the USFS, requires a Forest Adventure Pass and Wilderness Pass in possession if you intend to park your vehicle and use the USFS public lands for any purpose. For more information call USFS at (909)383-5588.

WEATHER: Warm days and cool nights are common during the D19 hunt season. Snow at higher elevations can occur at any time during the season.

CAMPING: There are numerous campgrounds on public lands throughout the zone, many of which close later in the hunting season. Camping adjacent to springs or other water sources is not allowed. Human presence within 200 yards of a wildlife water source for more than 30 minutes is a violation of Fish and Game laws. Water sources are precious spots that provide important water for wildlife.

WHERE TO FIND DEER: Zone D19 deer habitat is highly diverse, ranging from pine forest to chaparral and desert scrub. Areas that have had successful harvests include Rouse Ridge, Thomas Mountain, Beauty Mountain, Baldy Mountain, and Quinn Flat. Look for areas with recent wildfire or prescribed burn activity such as the Baldy Mountain area. Water is critical to deer survival and higher numbers of deer are found most often within close proximity to a water source.

ADDITIONAL HUNT J14 (RIVERSIDE JUNIOR EITHER-SEX DEER HUNT): The J14 hunt is a late season deer hunt. The hunt is only in those portions of D19 within Riverside County. For specific information regarding this hunt, please refer to the California Hunting Regulations (Mammals and Furbearers) booklet available online at the Department of Fish and Game's website: www.dfg.ca.gov/licensing/biggame/biggamehunting.html.

CONTACT INFORMATION: If you have further questions, telephone (909)627-1613.